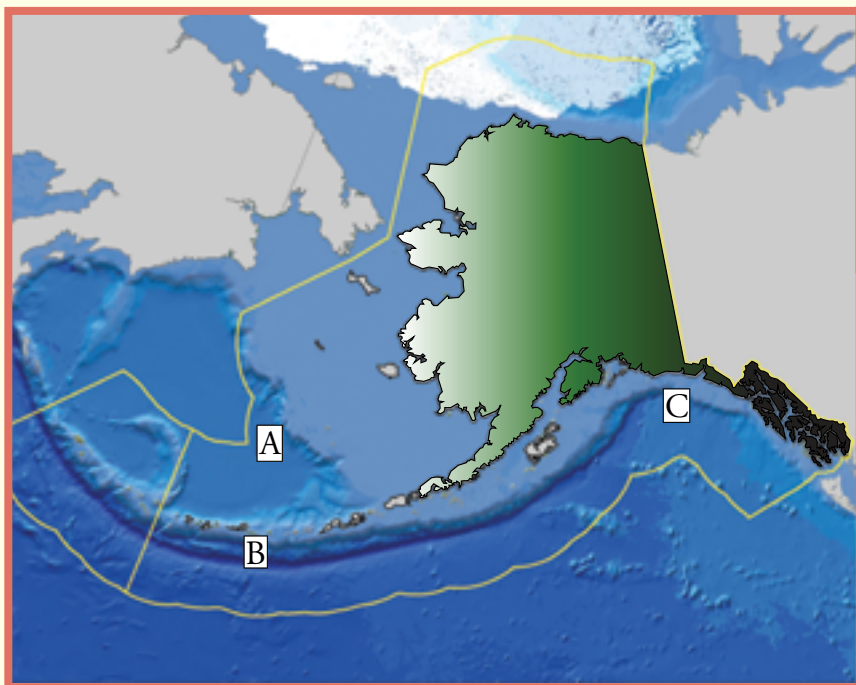


Figure 3: Looking to the Future

The Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program, through a review of its funded research and other scientific literature, has identified several locations where deep-sea coral habitats are in areas open to bottom fishing with gears that can damage corals. The program is committed to helping resource managers evaluate the need for protection at these locations, including:

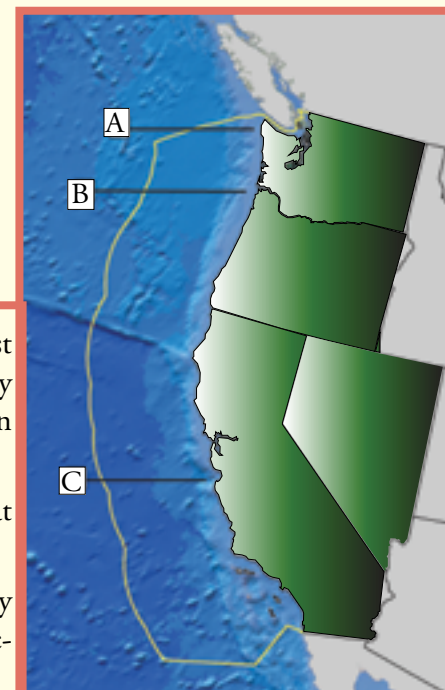
Alaska

- A. Parts of the Bering Sea Slope
- B. Some of the Aleutian Island coral areas not currently protected
- C. Gulf of Alaska *Primnoa* coral habitats outside the protected areas



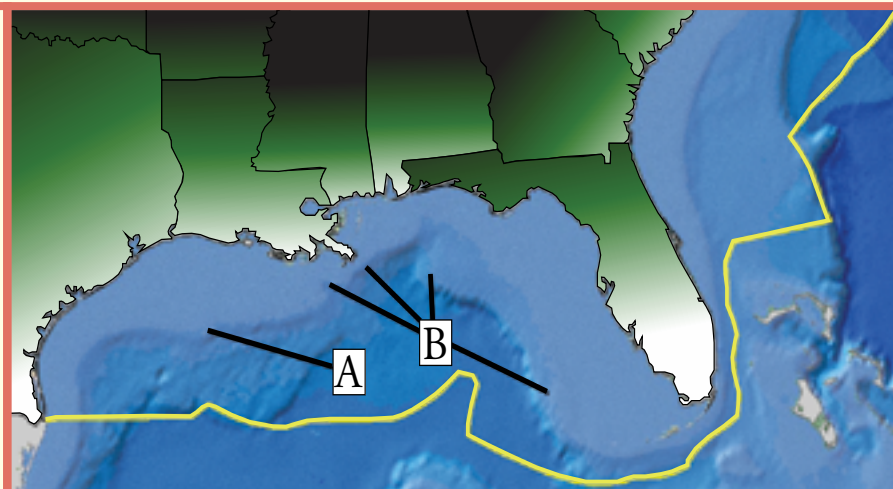
West Coast

- A. Areas in the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary where deep-sea corals have been documented
- B. Parts of Astoria Canyon that have no special protections
- C. Certain areas of Monterey Canyon with no special protections



Gulf of Mexico

- A. Numerous banks in the northwest Gulf of Mexico that harbor significant populations of deep-sea corals have been identified as Habitat Areas of Particular Concern, but some of them do not carry any protection measures against the impacts of bottom fishing, including 29 Fathom, Sonnier, MacNeil and Rankin Bright Banks.
- B. Other areas observed to contain deep-sea corals, but have no special protections, such as Green Canyon, Mississippi Canyon, Viosca Knoll, Mississippi–Alabama Pinnacles, and southwest Florida Slope reefs



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